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GOOD GATEWAYS MEAN MORE SAFETY FOR FARM FAMILIES

The homemaker often has something to say about the location of the entrance to the farmstead, and to the fields and pastures if they border on the highway, says _____ (Name), _____ (Title), _____ (Institution). In these days of high-speed traffic she is properly concerned for the safety of her family when they go out of the yard. Children may be endangered on their way to school or to the neighbors. The farmer himself and his helpers run risks if the entrance to the highway is hidden from passing motorists by trees, high shrubs, or other obstructions. A slow-moving vehicle or farm implement coming out of such an entrance may be struck, or it may block the road. Perhaps the worst location for an entrance is near the top of a hill where it is impossible for persons using it to see all traffic at a safe distance and impossible for the motorists coming over the hill to see those entering or leaving the farm.

There is also danger if the driveway is not straight, so that turning or backing is necessary in getting onto or off the highway. The approach to the gateway should have an inner radius of not less than 30 feet. If a tractor and trailer have to use the entrance, a 40-foot radius is needed. Easy curves make entrance easy.

Other points: A well-drained entrance prevents erosion and permits all-weather use. Engineers recommend that when a field or pasture is entered directly from the highway, the gate - and as much fence as necessary - be

set back from the highway about 20 feet further than the fence line. An entrance level or on a gentle slope is safer than one on a steep hillside.

These and other points are to be considered by the homemaker when the location of the roadway is being discussed, _____
(Name)
believes.

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